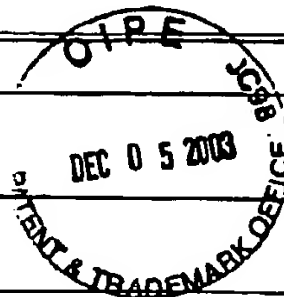


FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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Date Submitted to PTO: December 5, 2003

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Takayuki WATANABE et al.FILING DATE  
January 27, 2000GROUP  
1761

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
<i>Ran</i>	AJ	0 598 920	6/1994	Europe				
	AK							
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

<i>Ra</i>	AO	Database WPI, Section Ch., Week 199524, Derwent Publications, Ltd., London, Great Britain; Class A97, AN 1995-183227 XP 002259694 & JP 07 102279 A (Saneigen FFI KK), April 18, 1995.
<i>Ra</i>	AP	Database WPI, Section Ch., Week 199724, Derwent Publications, Ltd., London, Great Britain; Class D13, AN 1997-266451 XP 002259691 & JP 09 094060 A (Yakult Honsha KK), April 8, 1997.
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

1/10/04

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.